

# Introduction to Standards (with External Stakeholders)

## WORKBOOK

Pacific Quality Infrastructure (PQI) Initiative

### WORKSHOP 4

7th June 2022

## Pacific Quality Infrastructure (PQI) Initiative

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The Pacific Islands Forum is leading the Pacific Quality Infrastructure (PQI) Initiative, which aims to strengthen quality infrastructure across all Forum Island Countries to increase trade competitiveness. Given that quality infrastructure plays a crucial role both for trade and national health systems, support throughout will contribute to the regional recovery from COVID-19.

Quality Infrastructure refers to the system of organisations and processes that help ensure the quality of goods and services and facilitate access to global markets. It consists of key pillars like standardisation, metrology, accreditation, and conformity assessment. Collectively these systems help stimulate industrial development, trade competitiveness, innovation, and the efficient use of resources, while protecting human health and the environment.

The PQI Initiative was officially endorsed by Forum Trade Ministers for a 5-year work program covering different streams of work, including standards, metrology, conformity assessment and quality promotion.

### Workshop 1 - Intro Session for National Standards Focal Points

The first workshop was held on the 8th of October 2021. This session focused on the foundational topics such as the benefits of standards and the principles of good standardisation practice to familiarise Pacific Island Focal Points with the key principles of standardisation.

### Workshop 2 - The Standards Development Process

This second workshop deepened attendees' understanding by outlining the basic steps required to develop a standard, based on internationally agreed best practice.

### Workshop 3 - Effective Stakeholder Engagement

The third workshop built on the content from the previous 2 workshops to emphasize the important role of stakeholders in the standards development process, and how National Standards Focal Points can work with government and industry stakeholders to develop standards.

### Workshop 4 - Introduction to Standards (with External Stakeholders)

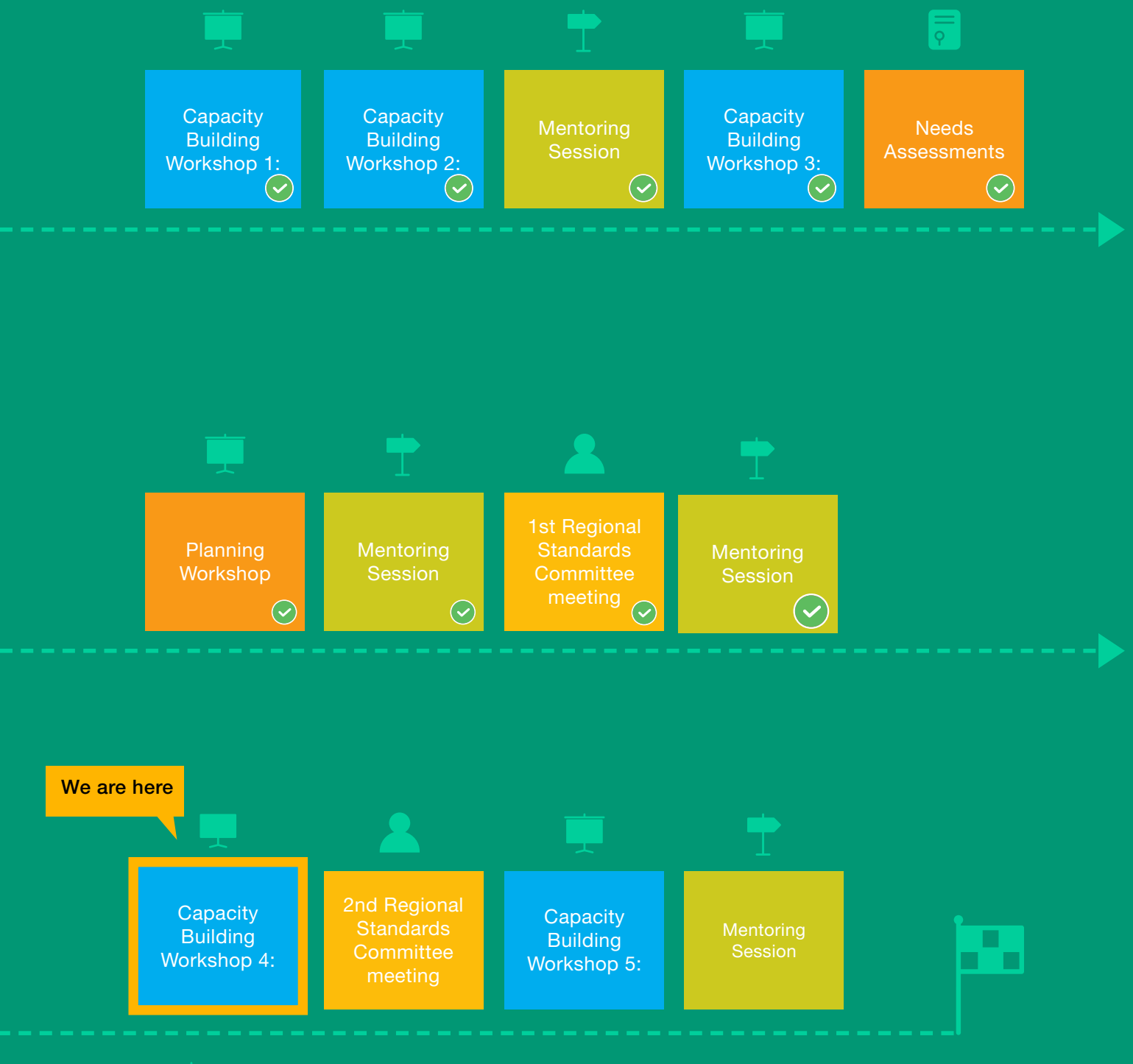
This session will bring together National Standards Focal Points and their key stakeholders from government, industry, and others with an interest in standards. This session will cover the benefits of standards, why stakeholders should use standards, and how they can be more involved.

**[Register here](#)**

## Agenda: Introduction to Standards (with External Stakeholders)

Time	Speaker	Topic
02:00pm FJT 12:00pm AEST	<b>Ms Abbey Dorian</b> International Engagement Manager, Standards Australia  <b>Dr Ulrich Diekmann</b> Regional Quality Infrastructure Coordination, Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Welcoming Remarks</li> <li>• Overview of the Agenda</li> <li>• Update on the PQI Initiative.</li> </ul>
2:05pm FJT 12:05pm AEST	<b>Mr Brendan Slowey</b> International Learning Specialist, Standards Australia	Case Studies from the Pacific' Stakeholder Engagement and its place in effective Standard Development including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The benefits of standards vs. technical regulation.</li> <li>• Why stakeholders should use standards.</li> <li>• How Stakeholders can get involved in standards development.</li> </ul>
2:25pm FJT 12:25pm AEST	<b>Dr Geoff Boughton</b> Senior Research Engineer, JCU Cyclone Testing Station, James Cook University	Case Study – Fiji Wind Load Standards
2:40pm FJT 12:40pm AEST	<b>Ms Ajeshni Lata</b> Standards Officer, National Trade, Measurement and Standards, Fiji	Hearing from the Department of National Trade, Measurement and Standards – Fiji Wind Load Standards
2:55pm FJT 12:55pm AEST	Facilitated by <b>Mr Brendan Slowey</b> International Learning Specialist, Standards Australia	Facilitated Panel Q&A
3:15pm FJT 1:15pm AEST	Break out Groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What challenges are stakeholders experiencing that could be solved through standards?</li> <li>• What are the roadblocks in getting involved in the standard development process?</li> <li>• How can stakeholders be supported to use standards as a solution?</li> </ul>
3:35pm FJT 1:35pm AEST	Facilitated by <b>Mr Brendan Slowey</b> International Learning Specialist Standards Australia	Questions from participants
3:55pm FJT 1:55pm AEST	<b>Ms Abbey Dorian</b> International Engagement Manager Standards Australia  <b>Dr Ulrich Diekmann</b> Regional Quality Infrastructure Coordination Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat	Closing Remarks

# PQI Milestones



Completed activities

## *What is Quality Infrastructure and the PQI?*



Quality Infrastructure refers to the system of organisations and processes that help ensure the quality of goods and services and facilitate access to global markets. It consists of key pillars like standardisation, metrology, accreditation, and conformity assessment.

The Pacific Quality Infrastructure Initiative was officially endorsed by Forum Trade Ministers for a 5-year work program covering different streams of work, including standards, metrology, conformity assessment and quality promotion.

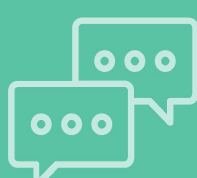
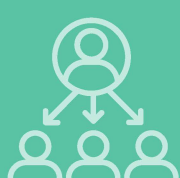
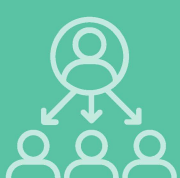
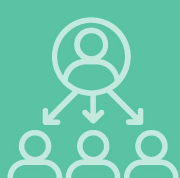
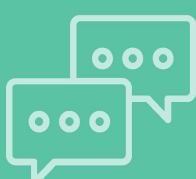
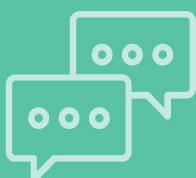
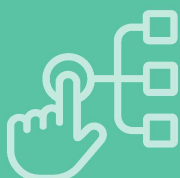
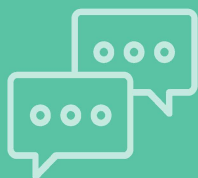
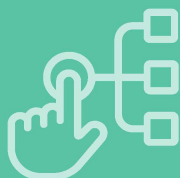
Collectively these systems of standardisation, metrology, accreditation and conformity assessment help stimulate industrial development, trade competitiveness, innovation, and the efficient use of resources, while protecting human health and the environment.

The Pacific Islands Forum is leading the Pacific Quality Infrastructure (PQI) Initiative, which aims to strengthen quality infrastructure across all Forum Island Countries to increase trade competitiveness.



How does your role impact the promotion of quality in your country?





# Case Studies from the Pacific

## 1.1 What is a Standard?

Standards are published documents setting out specifications and procedures designed to ensure that products, services and systems are safe, reliable and consistently perform the way they were intended to.

They establish a common language that defines quality and safety criteria. Standards are practical and set achievable goals. They are based on sound industrial, scientific and consumer experience and are regularly reviewed to ensure that they keep pace with advances in technology.

## 1.2 Types of Standards

Some of the different types of Standards are:



**Quality management standards to help us work more efficiently and reduce product failures.**



**Energy management standards to help cut energy consumption.**



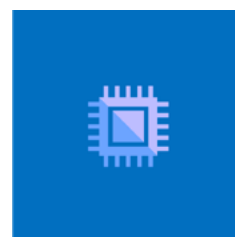
**Environmental management standards to help reduce environmental impacts, reduce waste and be more sustainable.**



**Food safety standards to help prevent food from being contaminated.**



**Health and safety standards to help reduce accidents in the workplace.**



**IT security standards to help keep sensitive information secure.**



# Case Studies from the Pacific



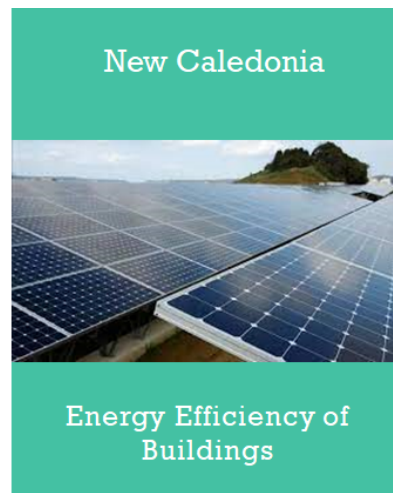
Quality management standards to help us work more efficiently and reduce product failures.



Notes



Energy management standards to help cut energy consumption.



Notes



Environmental management standards to help reduce environmental impacts, reduce waste and be more sustainable.



Notes

## What are the benefits of Standards

List some of the potential benefits that Standards provide:



## How are Standards used?

Standards and technical regulations can sometimes be confused with one another. Compliance with technical regulation is mandatory, while compliance with, or conformity to, a standard is not mandatory, unless the standard is referenced within regulation. Here are some of the ways a standard can be used:



### **VOLUNTARY APPLICATIONS**

Standards that specify requirements to achieve at least the minimum objectives of safety, quality or performance of a product or service.



### **REGULATORY COMPLIANCE**

Standards that are used to specify minimum least-cost solutions to technical requirements expressing characteristics, performance and design criteria compatible with the function of legislation.



### **CONTRACTUAL PURPOSE**

Standards that serve as purchasing specifications or technical conditions of contract between two parties.



### **GUIDANCE**

Standards that may be intended for educational purposes and which include recommendations, or administrative or project management procedures. In general, these Standards will not be adopted in either legislation or contract specifications.

# Case Studies from the Pacific



Facilitate international trade



Notes



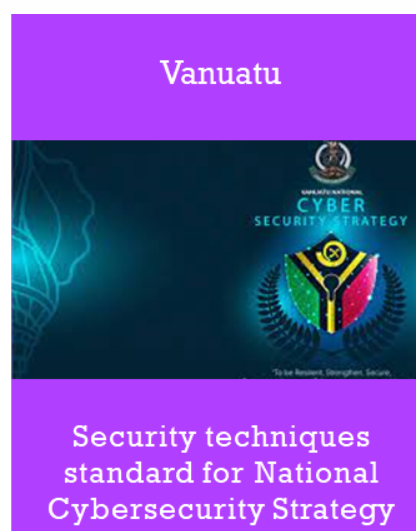
Voice national interests



Notes



Reflect experience of industry and regulators worldwide



Notes

# Standards v Technical Regulation

The difference between a standard and a technical regulation lies in compliance. While conformity with standards is voluntary, technical regulations are by nature mandatory.

Standards are published documents setting out specifications and procedures designed to ensure that products, services and systems are safe, reliable and consistently perform the way they were intended to.

WTO Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) defines Technical Regulation as a document which lays down product characteristics or their related processes and production methods, including the applicable administrative provisions, with which compliance is mandatory.



Standards



Technical Regulation

# Role and function of National Standards Bodies

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Facilitating the operation of technical committees to draft, review and publish standards.



Supporting the participation of the country in the development and adoption of regional and international standards, in particular the International Organisation for Standardisation.



Accreditation of standards development organisations

## National Standards Bodies in the Pacific

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Department of  
National Trade,  
Measurement and  
Standards  
(DNTMS)

**Fiji**



Ministry of Commerce,  
Industry and Labour  
(MCIL)

**Samoa**



National Institute of  
Standards and  
Industrial Technology  
(NISIT)

**Papua New  
Guinea**



Vanuatu Bureau of  
Standards  
(VBS)

**Vanuatu**

# Coordinating Standards Development without a National Standards Body

## Case Studies from the Pacific

### Solomon Islands



Standards for primary commodities including Noni.



Notes

### Tonga



General Product Safety and Labelling Standard



Notes

### Tuvalu



Red Toddy Standard



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# What is your organisation's role in Standard Development

One of the methods that a National Standards Body (NSB) may use to ensure they have a broad and relevant range of interests engaged is to use a checklist of sector/stakeholder categories

## ISO stakeholder categories



Manufacturers; producers; designers; service industries; distribution, warehousing and transport undertakings; retailers; insurers; banks and financial institutions; business and trade associations.



International and regional treaty organizations and agencies; national government and local government departments and agencies, and all bodies that have a legally recognised regulatory function.



National, regional and international consumer representation bodies, independent of any organization that would fall into the 'industry and commerce' category, or individual experts engaged from a consumer perspective.



International, regional, national and local trades unions and federations of trades unions and similar bodies the main purpose of which is to promote or safeguard the collective interests of employees in respect of their relationship with their employers. This does not include professional associations.



Universities and other higher educational bodies or professional educators associated with them; professional associations; research institutions.



Testing, certification and accreditation bodies; organizations primarily devoted to promoting or assessing the use of standards.



Organizations that usually operate on a charitable, not-for-profit or non-profit distributing basis and that have a public interest objective related to social or environmental concerns. This category does not include political parties or other bodies whose main purpose is to achieve representation in government or governmental bodies.

## Principles of Standards Development

There are three key principles that provide Standards their authority and widespread acceptance. In your own words, describe how you think these principles guide the development of Standards:



**BALANCE**



**CONSENSUS**



**TRANSPARENCY**



# Who develops Standards

## Who Develops Standards?

Organisation's whose primary activities are development, co-ordinating, revising, amending, reissuing, interpreting, adopting or otherwise producing technical Standards.

Standards are developed by Standards Development Organisations at three levels:

1. National
2. Regional
3. International

### NATIONAL

Examples



MINISTRY OF  
INDUSTRY, TRADE  
AND TOURISM



### REGIONAL

Examples



### INTERNATIONAL

Examples



## Regional Standards Committee

A regional quality infrastructure system represents the only viable and sustainable option for countries in the Pacific region to access a wide range of reliable and affordable QI institutions and services.

A Regional Standards Committee has been established PQI Initiative. This committee will lead on the harmonisation of national standards and development of regional standards in agreed priority areas.



Some of the committee's responsibilities will include:



**Develop regional standards**



**Review existing standards in the region**



**Identify opportunities for harmonisation**



**Facilitate the participation of Forum Island Countries in international standards development**

## Presentation from Dr Geoff Boughton - Fiji Wind Load Standards

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**Dr Geoff Boughton**

**Senior Research Engineer, JCU Cyclone Testing Station**

Geoff has a PhD in Structural Engineering for work on wind loads on housing at the Cyclone Testing Station, James Cook University, and has worked with UNDP in Asia and the Pacific on low-cost disaster-resistant housing solutions. He has recently worked on some World Bank Projects in Tonga and Fiji and will be talking about a standardisation project based in Fiji.



What challenges have they encountered?



How did standardisation provide a solution?

## Presentation from Ms Ajeshni Lata - Fiji Wind Load Standards

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**Ms Ajeshni Lata**

**Standards Officer, DNTMS**



Ms Ajeshni Lata is a Standards Officer, Department of National Trade Measurement and Standards, Fiji Ministry of Industry, Trade and Tourism (DNTMS) and is a key Standardisation Focal Point within the Pacific Quality Infrastructure Initiative.



What challenges have they encountered?



How did standardisation provide a solution?

# Notes



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## Speakers

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**Ms. Abbey Dorian**

**International Engagement Manager, Standards Australia**

Abbey Dorian has been with Standards Australia in various roles including stakeholder engagement. In her current role as International Engagement Manager, Abbey's responsibilities encompass international policy and development management. This includes the design and implementation of standards related capacity building projects (primarily in the Pacific and South east Asia), strategic support for Australia's governance and policy positions at regional and international bodies, and ongoing engagement with National Standards Bodies and governments globally.



**Mr. Brendan Slowey**

**International Learning Specialist, Standards Australia**

Brendan has been a learning specialist with Standards Australia for two years. He is responsible for designing, developing and delivering learning solutions for Standards Australia's International Engagement and Strategic Initiatives teams. This included the 2019 capacity building workshops under the ASEAN-Australia DTS Initiative.



**Dr Geoff Boughton**

**Senior Research Engineer, JCU Cyclone Testing Station**

Geoff has a PhD in Structural Engineering for work on wind loads on housing at the Cyclone Testing Station, James Cook University, and has worked with UNDP in Asia and the Pacific on low-cost disaster-resistant housing solutions. He has recently worked on some World Bank Projects in Tonga and Fiji and will be talking about a standardisation project based in Fiji.

Geoff has been involved in teams that have investigated damage to housing following extreme wind events throughout Australia and on other projects to evaluate and improve resilience in buildings. He is a member of a number of Australian Standards Committees including the committee on structural timber, and the committees for the wind loadings standards, AS/NZS 1170.2 and AS 4055.



**Dr Ulrich Diekmann**

**Pacific QI Coordinator**

Ulrich joined PIFS in November 2020 to oversee the implementation of the PQI Initiative and to advise PIFS on QI matters. He has significant work experience in the development and implementation of technical assistance projects in the area of quality infrastructure (QI). He held various positions at organisations such as PTB, the German Metrology Institute and as an independent consultant. Ulrich holds a PhD in tropical and subtropical agriculture from the University of Göttingen, Germany.



**Ms Ajeshni Lata**

**Standards Officer, DNTMS**

Ms Ajeshni Lata is a Standards Officer, Department of National Trade Measurement and Standards, Fiji Ministry of Industry, Trade and Tourism (DNTMS) and is a key Standardisation Focal Point within the Pacific Quality Infrastructure Initiative.

## Key Project Contacts

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